Application No. (Attorney Docket No. 36163)

Inventors: Jallal MESSADEK et al. Title: BETAINE COMPOSITIONS

Preliminary Amendment

Remarks

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Applicant submits herewith this preliminary amendment to present the abstract of the invention on a separate page and in U.S. format, and to conform the claims to U.S. practice in accordance with Rule 1.72. New claims 75-91 have been added. It is believed that the amendments submitted herewith present the claims in acceptable form and that they are patentably distinct from those references cited in the International Preliminary Examination Report. Applicant has also incorporated by reference International Application PCT/IB2002/2004923, filed November 25, 2002. A copy of that published application, with the International Search Report, is submitted herewith. The incorporation by reference is also set forth in the accompanying Transmittal -- see MPEP 201.13. Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests that this application receive early and favorable consideration.

Should the examiner have any questions concerning this application that may be resolved by a telephone conference, he is encouraged to contact the undersigned at 1-800-445-3460. Any additional fees necessitated by this submission may be charged to deposit account 19-0522.

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Respectfully submitted,

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(Docket 36193)